

**REMARKS**

Claims 7 and 23-32 are now pending, wherein claims 1-6 and 8-22 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

Applicants thank the Examiner for that indication that claims 7 and 23-32 are allowed. Claims 1-6 and 8-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. In the event any questions arise regarding this communication or the application in general, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 28, 2004

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